



# Greek

## Introductory Course

Hara Garoufalia Middle and Howard Middle

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# ***Introduction***

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## **What is the Michel Thomas Method?**

The Michel Thomas Method\* all-audio courses, published by Hodder Education, provide an accelerated method for language learning that is truly revolutionary. And they promise a remarkable educational experience that will make your learning both exciting and pleasurable.

## **How does the Method work?**

The Method works by breaking a language down into its component parts, enabling learners to reconstruct the language themselves – to form their own sentences, to say what they want, when they want. Because you learn the language in small steps, you can build it up yourself to produce ever more complicated sentences.

**No books  
No writing  
Just confidence – in hours**

The Michel Thomas Method is 'in tune' with the way your brain works, so you assimilate the language easily and don't forget it! The Method teaches you through your own language, so there's no stress, and no anxiety. The teacher builds up the new language, step by step, and you don't move on till you've absorbed and understood the previous point. As Michel Thomas said, *'What you understand, you know, and what you know, you don't forget.'*

With parallels to the way you learnt your own language, each language is learnt in 'real-time' conditions. There is no need to stop for homework, additional exercises or vocabulary memorization.

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\*US patent 6,565,358

*'Learning Spanish with Michel was the most extraordinary learning experience of my life – it was unforgettable.'*

**Emma Thompson**

*'Michel Thomas is a precious find indeed.'*

**The Guardian**

The classroom situation on the recording lets you learn with others. You enjoy their success, and you learn from their mistakes. The students on the recordings are not reading from scripts and they have received no additional instruction or preparation – just the guidance you hear on the recording. You, as the learner, become the third student and participate actively in the class.

A very important part of the Michel Thomas Method is that full responsibility for your learning lies with the teacher, not with you, the pupil. This helps to ensure that you can relax, and feel confident, so allowing you to learn effectively.

You will enjoy the Method as it creates real excitement – you can't wait to use the language.

*'There's no such thing as a poor student, only a poor teacher.'*

**Michel Thomas**

### **What level of language will I achieve?**

The Introductory and Foundation courses are designed for complete beginners. They make no assumption of a knowledge of any language other than English. They will give the beginner a practical and functional use of the

## HOW ARE THE RECORDINGS BEST USED?

- **Relax!** Make yourself comfortable before playing the recording and try to let go of the tensions and anxieties traditionally associated with learning.
- **Do not write or take any notes.** Remove notebooks, pens, dictionaries and anything else associated with learning at school.
- **Do not try to remember.** While participating in the recording and afterwards, it is important that you do not try to memorize specific words or expressions. It is a basic principle of the Michel Thomas Method that the responsibility for the student's learning lies with the teacher. With the Michel Thomas Method as your teacher, your learning will be based on understanding, and what you understand you don't forget.
- **Interact fully with the recordings.** Use the pause button and respond out loud (or in a whisper, or in your head, if you are in a public place) before the students' responses. *This is essential.* You do not learn by repetition but by thinking out the answers to each question; it is by your own thought process that you truly learn.
- **Give yourself time to think.** The students on the recordings had all the time they needed to think out their responses. On the recordings their 'thinking time' has been cut in order to make full use of the recording time. You can take all the time you need (by using your pause button). The pause button is the key to *your* learning! To get you used to pausing the recording before the students' responses, bleeps have been added to the first few tracks. When you hear the bleep, pause the recording, think out and say your response, then release the pause button to hear the student's, then the teacher's, response.
- **Start at the beginning of the course.** Whatever your existing knowledge of the language you are learning, it is important that you follow the way that the teacher builds up your knowledge of the language.
- **Do not get annoyed with yourself if you make a mistake.** Mistakes are part of the learning process; as long as you understand why you made the mistake and you have the 'ahaa' reaction – 'yes, of course, I understand now' – you are doing fine. If you made a mistake and you do not understand why, you may have been daydreaming for a few seconds. The course is structured so that you cannot go on unless you fully understand everything, so just go back a little and you will pick up where you left off.
- **Stop the recording whenever it suits you.** You will notice that this course is not divided into lessons; you will always be able to pick up from where you left off, without the need to review.

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spoken language. They are also appropriate for anyone who has studied a language before, but has forgotten much of it or does not have confidence in speaking.

The Introductory course comprises the first two hours of the Foundation Course. The Advanced course follows on from the Foundation course and expands on structures touched on in the earlier course to improve your understanding and mastery of complex language.

The Michel Thomas Method teaches the everyday conversational language that will allow you to communicate in a wide variety of situations, empowered by the ability to create your own sentences and use the language naturally, having absorbed the vocabulary and grammatical structures.

### **How quickly can I learn with the Michel Thomas Method?**

One of the most remarkable features of the Michel Thomas Method is the speed with which results are achieved. A knowledge of the language that will take months of conventional study can be achieved in a matter of hours with the Michel Thomas Method. The teacher masterfully guides the student through an instructional process at a very rapid rate – yet the process will appear informal, relaxed and unhurried. The teacher moves quickly between numerous practice sessions, which all build the learners' confidence in their ability to communicate in complex ways.

Because the Michel Thomas Method is based on understanding, not memorization, there is no set limit to the length of time that you should study the course. It offers immersion without strain or stress, and you will find the recordings are not divided into lessons, though the material has been indexed for your convenience. This means that you can stop and start as you please.

The excitement of learning will motivate you to continue listening and learning for as long a time as is practical for you. This will enable you to make progress faster than you ever imagined possible.

## Who is the Michel Thomas Method for?

Anyone can learn a language with the Michel Thomas Method – and the wide diversity of Michel Thomas’s own students proves this. Not only did Michel instruct the rich and famous, but he also taught many so-called ‘hopeless cases’. For example, in 1997, Michel taught French to a group of sixteen-year-olds in north London who had been told they could never learn a language, and gave them the ability to use the new language far beyond their expectations – in just a week. Perhaps more importantly, he gave them the confidence to speak and a belief in, and the experience of, their own ability to learn.

Whatever your motivation for learning a language, the Michel Thomas Method quite simply offers the most effective method that is available.

## What can I do next?

Try to speak with native speakers whenever possible, as this is invaluable for improving your fluency. Television and radio programmes via satellite podcasts, newspapers and magazines (print or on-line) (especially those which feature interviews) will give you practice in the most current and idiomatic language. Expose yourself to the language whenever you can – you will have firm foundations on which to build.

Continue your study with the Foundation and Advanced courses. Then build your vocabulary with the existing and planned Vocabulary courses, which carry forward the Michel Thomas Method teaching tradition and faithfully follow Michel Thomas’s unique approach to foreign language learning. The series editor is Dr Rose Lee Hayden, Michel’s most experienced and trusted teacher. The courses remain faithful to the method Michel Thomas used in his earlier courses, with the all-audio and ‘building-block’ approach. The presenter builds on Michel’s foundations to encourage the student at home to build up their vocabulary in the foreign language, using relationships with English, where appropriate, or connections within the foreign language itself. The student takes part in the audio, following prompts by the presenter, as in Michel Thomas’ original Foundation and Advanced courses.

## Who was Michel Thomas?



*Michel with Grace Kelly*

Michel Thomas (1914–2005) spent most of his childhood in Germany and France. He studied psychology at the Sorbonne (Paris) and at the University of Vienna. During the Second World War he fought for the French Resistance; after the war he worked for the U.S. army. His war-time experiences, including two years in concentration and labour camps and torture at the hands of the Gestapo, fuelled his passion for teaching languages, as a result of which he developed a uniquely effective language-

teaching method that brought to his door celebrities (including Barbra Streisand and Emma Thompson), diplomats, academics and business executives from around the world. He established the first Michel Thomas Language Center in Beverly Hills in 1947, and continued to travel the world teaching languages for the rest of his life.

## Whom did Michel Thomas teach?

People came from all over the world to learn a foreign language with Michel Thomas – because his method works. His students, numbering in the thousands, included well-known people from the arts and from the corporate, political and academic worlds. For example, he taught French to filmstar Grace Kelly prior to her marriage to Prince Rainier of Monaco.

Michel's list of clients included:

- *Celebrities:* Emma Thompson, Woody Allen, Barbra Streisand, Warren Beatty, Melanie Griffith, Eddie Izzard, Bob Dylan, Jean Marsh, Donald Sutherland, Mrs George Harrison, Anne Bancroft, Mel Brooks, Nastassja Kinski, Carl Reiner, Raquel Welch, Johnny Carson, Julie Andrews, Isabelle Adjani, Candice Bergen, Barbara Hershey, Priscilla Presley, Loretta Swit, Tony Curtis, Diana Ross, Herb Alpert, Angie Dickinson, Lucille Ball, Doris Day, Janet Leigh, Natalie Wood, Jayne Mansfield, Ann-Margaret, Yves Montand,



Kim Novak, Otto Preminger, Max von Sydow, Peter Sellers, François Truffaut, Sophia Coppola.

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- *Diplomats, dignitaries and academics:* Former U.S. Ambassador to France, Walter Curley; U.S. Ambassador to the U.N., Joseph V. Reed; Cardinal John O'Connor, Archbishop of New York; Anthony Cardinal Bevilacqua, Archbishop of Philadelphia; Armand Hammer; Sarah Ferguson, Duchess of York; Professor Herbert Morris, Dean of Humanities at UCLA; Warren Keegan, Professor of Business at Pace University in New York; Professor Wesley Posvar, former President of the University of Pittsburgh.

- *Executives from the following corporations:* AT&T International, Coca-Cola, Procter & Gamble, Chase Manhattan Bank, American Express, Merrill Lynch, New York Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Boeing Aircraft, General Electric, Westinghouse Electric, Bank of America, Max Factor, Rand Corporation, Bertelsmann Music Group-RCA, Veuve Clicquot Inc., McDonald's Corporation, Rover, British Aerospace.

## ***Track listing***

In this track listing, the words and phrases taught in the course are listed in English and Greek (transliterated and Greek script). The Greek alphabet is given on pages 15–17 along with an explanation of the transliteration system.

Abbreviations used in this track listing:

(m) = masculine

(f) = feminine

(n) = neuter

To show a question in Greek, you use a semi-colon (;) where in English you would use a question mark (?).

### **CD1 Track 1**

Introduction to the course and how to use it

a	ένα (n)	ένα
sandwich	σάνδοιτς (n)	σάντουιτς
ouzo	οόζο (n)	ούζο
please	parakaló	παρακαλώ
I	egó	εγώ
(I) want	THélo	θέλω
and	ke	και

### **CD1 Track 2**

you want	THélete	θέλετε
you	esís	εσείς
yes	ne	ναι
no	óxi	όχι
not	then	δεν
tea	tsái (n)	τσάι

**CD 1 Track 3**

what?	ti	τι;
I have	éxo	έχω
you have	éxete	έχετε
it (n)	to (n)	το
glass	potíri (n)	ποτήρι
wine	krasí (n)	κρασί
bottle	bookáli (n)	μπουκάλι
water	neró (n)	νερό

**CD 1 Track 4**

I buy/am buying	agorázo	αγοράζω
market	agorá	αγορά
you buy/are buying	agorázete	αγοράζετε
I wait/am waiting (for)	periméno	περιμένω
you wait/are waiting (for)	periménete	περιμένετε
I know	kséro	ξέρω
you know	ksérete	ξέρετε
I understand	katalavéno	καταλαβαίνω
you understand	katalavénete	καταλαβαίνετε
why/because	giatí	γιατί

**CD 1 Track 5**

something	káti	κάτι
excuse me, sorry	signómi	συγγνώμη
but	alá	αλλά
now	tóra	τόρα

**CD 1 Track 6**

Revision and practice of verbs

**CD 1 Track 7**

anything/nothing	típotá	τίποτα
bar	bar (n)	μπαρ

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park	párko (n)	πάρκο
underground	metró (n)	μετρό
supermarket	soopermárket (n)	σουπερμάρκετ
where?	poó	πού;
is	íne	είναι
the (n)	to (n)	το
near/nearby	kondá	κοντά
far/far away	makriá	μακριά

**CD 1 Track 8**

in/at	se	σε
in the park	sto párko	στο πάρκο
I am	íme	είμαι
you are	íste	είστε
or	i	ή

**CD 2 Track 1**

beer	bíra (f)	μπύρα
salad	saláta (f)	σαλάτα
a (f)	mía (f)	μία
the (f)	i (f)	η
it (f)	tin (f)	την
I want it.	Tin THélo.	Την θέλω.

**CD 2 Track 2**

he/it (to replace 'he' when referring to masculine nouns)	aftós	αυτός
she/it (to replace 'she' when referring to feminine nouns)	aftí	αυτή
he/she wants	THéli	θέλει
he/she has	éxi	έχει
he/she buys/ is buying	agorázi	αγοράζει
he/she understands	katalavéni	καταλαβαίνει

**CD 2 Track 3**

I make/am making, I do/am doing	káno	κάνω
you make/do	kánete	κάνετε
he/she makes/does	káni	κάνει
well, fine	kalá	καλά
how are you?	ti kánete	τι κάνετε;
thank you	efxaristó	ευχαριστώ
I go/am going	páo	πάω
to	se	σε
to the bar	sto bar	στο μπαρ
you go/are going	páte	πάτε
he/she goes/is going	pái	πάει

**CD 2 Track 4**

I speak/am speaking Greek	miláo eliniká	μιλάω ελληνικά
Do you speak Greek?	Miláte esís eliniká?	Μιλάτε εσείς ελληνικά;
he/she speaks	milái	μιλάει
French	galiká	γαλλικά
Spanish	ispaniká	ισπανικά
very	polí	πολύ
very well	polí kalá	πολύ καλά
a little	lígo	λίγο
English	angliká	αγγλικά

**CD 2 Track 5**

I'm hungry	pináo	πεινάω
Are you very hungry?	Pináte polí?	Πεινάτε πολύ;
I'm thirsty	thipsáo	διψάω
I hurt	ponáo	πονάω
it hurts	ponái	πονάει
my	moo	μου
my ouzo	to sózo moo	το ούζο μου
my beer	i bíra moo	η μπύρα μου

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stomach  
My stomach hurts.

stomáxi (n)  
To stomáxi moou ponáí.

στομάχι  
Το στομάχι μου  
πονάει.

tooth  
foot

thónði (n)  
póthi (n)

δόντι  
πόδι

**CD 2 Track 6**

here

ethó

εδώ

# The Greek alphabet

	<i>Greek letter</i>	<i>Closest English equivalent</i>	<i>Transliterated</i>
1	<b>A α</b> αλλά	Somewhere between A of 'cat' and the U of 'cut'	a
2	<b>B β</b> βιβλίο, ταβέρνα	V as in 'vase' (There is no hard B sound, as in 'back', in Greek. This sound is created by combining letters; see No. 31 below.)	v
3	<b>Γ γ</b> αγοράζω γιατί	G like the English g in 'go', 'get' but softer, with more breath. Sounds like Y in front of e or i sounds.	g y
4	<b>Δ δ</b> δεν, εδώ	TH as in 'then', 'this'	th
5	<b>E, ε</b> έχω, εγώ	E as in 'bed'	e
6	<b>Z, ζ</b> ούζο, διαβάζω	Z as in 'zoo'	z
7	<b>H, η</b> την	EE as in 'feet'	i
8	<b>Θ, θ</b> θέλω, θα	TH as in 'thin'	TH
9	<b>I, ι</b> λίγο, τι	EE as in 'feet'	i
10	<b>K, κ</b> κάτι, κάθε	K as in 'kick'	k
11	<b>Λ, λ</b> Ελλάδα	L as in 'lamp'	l
12	<b>M, μ</b> μία, μεγάλο	M as in 'milk'	m
13	<b>N, ν</b> Ελληνικά, δεν	N as in 'nice'	n
14	<b>Ξ, ξ</b> ξέρω	KS as in 'Jackson'	ks

15	<b>Ο, ο</b> το, λίγο	O as in 'lock'	o
16	<b>Π, π</b> πόδι, από	P as in 'pot'	p
17	<b>Ρ, ρ</b> μέρα, μακριά	R as in 'red' (with a roll)	r
18	<b>Σ, σ/ς</b> κρασί Έλληνας	S as in 'sit' (at the end of a word in small letters the alternative ς has to be used)	s
19	<b>Τ, τ</b> σπίτι, σαλάτα	T as in 'top'	t
20	<b>Υ, υ</b> πολύ	E as in 'feet'	i
21	<b>Φ, φ</b> καφές, εφημερίδα	F as in 'farm'	f
22	<b>Χ, χ</b> όχι, έχω	CH as in the Scottish 'loch' but softer, less guttural	x
23	<b>Ψ, ψ</b> διψάω	PS as in 'tips'	ps
24	<b>Ω, ω</b> εγώ, τώρα	O as in 'lock'	o

#### Combinations

25	<b>αι</b> ναι, και	E as in 'let'	e
26	<b>ει</b> είμαι, θέλει	EE as in 'feet'	i
27	<b>οι</b> ανοιχτό	EE as in 'feet'	i
28	<b>ου</b> μουσική, μου	OO as in 'hoot'	oo
29a, b	<b>αυ</b> αυτός, αύριο	AF as in 'after', or AV as in 'have'	af, av
30a, b	<b>ευ</b> ευχαριστώ, φεύγω	EF as in 'left', or EV as in 'every'	ef, ev



31	<b>μπ</b> μπαρ, μπουκάλι, λάμπα	B as in 'bar'	b
32	<b>ντ</b> ντομάτα δόντι	D as in 'dad'	d
33	<b>γκ</b> γκαράζ, αγκινάρα	G as in 'get'	g
34	<b>γγ</b> αγγλικά	NG as in 'angle'	ng
35	<b>τσ</b> τσιγάρο	TS as in 'puts'	ts
36	<b>τζ</b> τζατζίκι	DZ as in 'adds'	dz

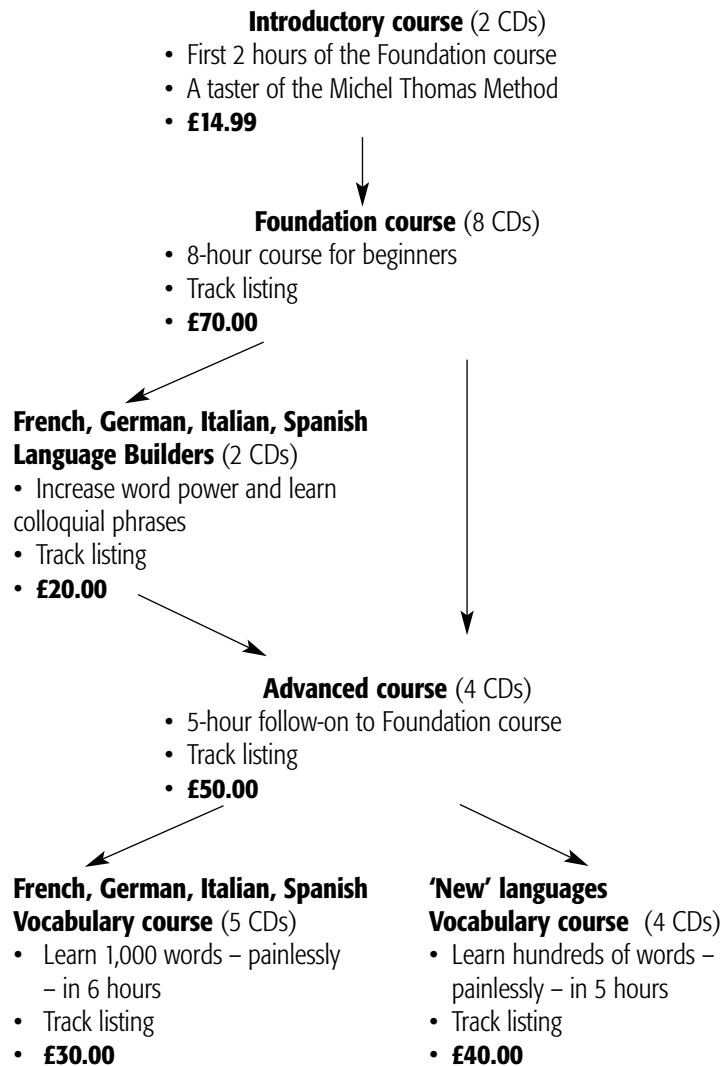
**Common Greek signs**

<b>ΜΕΤΡΟ</b> underground	<b>ΜΠΑΡ</b> bar	<b>ΕΙΣΟΔΟΣ</b> entrance
<b>ΕΞΟΔΟΣ</b> exit	<b>ΩΘΗΣΑΤΕ</b> push	<b>ΣΥΡΑΤΕ</b> pull
<b>ΕΙΣΙΤΗΡΙΑ</b> tickets	<b>ΤΑΜΕΙΟ</b> ticket office/ cash desk	<b>ΕΣΤΙΑΤΟΡΙΟ</b> restaurant
<b>ΞΕΝΟΔΟΧΕΙΟ</b> hotel	<b>ΤΡΑΠΕΖΑ</b> bank	<b>ΣΤΑΘΜΟΣ</b> railway/bus station
<b>ΣΤΑΣΗ</b> (bus) stop	<b>ΤΟΥΑΛΕΤΤΕΣ</b> toilets	<b>ΑΝΟΙΧΤΟ</b> open
<b>ΚΛΕΙΣΤΟ</b> closed	<b>ΑΠΑΓΟΡΕΥΕΤΑΙ ΤΟ ΚΑΠΝΙΣΜΑ</b> no smoking	<b>ΜΟΥΣΕΙΟ</b> museum
<b>ΚΑΦΕΝΕΙΟ</b> café	<b>ΘΕΑΤΡΟ</b> theatre	<b>ΣΙΝΕΜΑ</b> cinema
<b>ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟ</b> hospital	<b>ΑΓΟΡΑ</b> market	<b>ΤΑΞΙ</b> taxi
<b>ΑΕΡΟΔΡΟΜΙΟ</b> airport	<b>ΑΦΙΞΕΙΣ</b> arrivals	<b>ΑΝΑΧΩΡΗΣΕΙΣ</b> departures
<b>ΑΣΤΥΝΟΜΙΑ</b> police	<b>ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΕΙΟ</b> post office	<b>ΦΑΡΜΑΚΕΙΟ</b> chemist

## Your guide to the Michel Thomas Method courses

- No books
- No writing
- Just confidence

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ISBN: 978 0340 81245 7; paperback; £14.99

In *The Learning Revolution* renowned instructional psychologist Dr Jonathan Solity draws on professional experience and lengthy discussions with Michel Thomas to explain how and why the Michel Thomas Method of language teaching works where so many others fail.

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